

## COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(Original, Design, National Stage of PCT, Supplemental)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

### TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is of the following type: (check one applicable item below)

- ☒ original
- ☐ design
- ☐ supplemental
- ☐ National Stage of PCT
- ☐ divisional (see added page)
- ☐ continuation (see added page)
- ☐ continuation-in-part (see added page)

### INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I/We believe that the named inventor or inventors listed below is/are the original and first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

### TITLE OF INVENTION

**CLOSING DEVICE FOR VALVE WITH INTERIOR HOUSING FOR PROBE  
ALLOWING PROBE TO BE REMOVED WITHOUT DISASSEMBLY**

### SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c))

- (a) ☒ is attached hereto.
- (b) ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as  
☐ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ or  
☐ Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_ as Serial No. (not yet known) and was  
amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).
- (c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed  
on \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).

### POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name(s) and registration number(s))

Anthony G. M. Davis  
Michael J. Bujold

Registration No. 27,868  
Registration No. 32,018

- ☐ Attached as part of this Declaration and Power of Attorney is the authorization of the above-named attorney(s) to accept and follow instructions from my representative(s).

Send Correspondence to:

**Davis and Bujold  
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Direct Telephone Calls to:  
(603) 624-9220

Direct Telefaxes to:  
(603) 624-9229

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent Office all information which is known to be material to patentability of this application as defined in § 1.56 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

## PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

### EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119
FRANCE	01 01417	02.02.2001	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

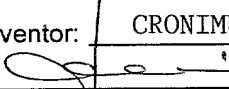
### ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of ~~sole or first joint~~ inventor: CRONIMUS Georges  
Inventor's signature:  Date 18/01/02  
Residence: 28 rue d'Uhrwiller - 67110 GUMBRECHTSHOFFEN - FRANCE  
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: FRANCE

Full name of second joint inventor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

A duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office rests on the inventor, on each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application, and on every other individual who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application. All such individuals have a duty to disclose to the Patent Office all information they are aware of which is known to be material to patentability of the application. Such information is material where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent. The duty is commensurate with the degree of involvement in the preparation or prosecution of the application.

Inherent in this is the duty to disclose any knowledge or belief that the invention:

- NOTE:** The "Information" concerned includes, but is not limited to, all published applications and patents, including applicant(s) and assignee(s) own, United States or foreign application(s) and patent(s), as well as any other pertinent prior art known, or which becomes known, to the inventor or his/her representative(s). Where English language equivalents of foreign language documents are known, they should be identified and, when possible, copies supplied. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a patent issued on the application being held invalid even if the known prior art which is not supplied is material to only one claim of that patent.

If there is any doubt concerning whether or not a citation is "material" to patentability of the application, it is better to err on the side of safety and disclose such art to the United States